

# Indiana Dunes State Park

## Nature Center

1600 N. 25 E. Chesterton, Indiana 46304 • (219) 926-1390

March Nature Center Hours: 9:30 a.m. ~ 4:30 p.m. CST Daily

All public programs are free (unless otherwise noted) and open to the public after paying the park entrance fee. Our interpretive programs are designed to entertain and enrich folks of all ages. However, children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult.

Schools and special groups must reserve programs separately. Contact the Nature Center for more details

### PARK CONTACTS:

Mike Mycroft, MM, Interpretive Naturalist  
David Garner, DG, Interpretive Naturalist  
219-926-1390

Brandt Baughman, Property Manager  
Doug Stukey, Assistant Property Manager  
219-926-1952

### Saturday, March 3

**Nature Video Day** – Come into the Nature Center and choose from 50 nature videos. Nature Videos are shown in the Nature Center Auditorium; ask at the front desk for a list to select from.

### Sunday, March 4

**10am Winter Scavenger Hunt** – Help a naturalist find items that show winter is still here. 30 min. activity starting at the Nature Center. DG

**1pm Natural Dyes** – Learn to create your own dyes using natural materials that you can find around the house. 30 min. activity, meet in the Nature Center auditorium. DG

**10am Predator and Prey** – Discover how it feels to be a predator or a prey as you try to survive in a 30 min activity at the Nature Center. DG

**1pm Maple Syrup** – Learn the process of making maple syrup from scratch. 40 min. presentation, meet in the Nature Center auditorium. DG

### Sunday, March 11

**10am Fallen Tree** – What happens to a tree when it falls to the ground? There are many benefits of a fallen tree. Come and discover these benefits in a 45 min. hike through the woods. Meet at the Nature Center. DG

**1pm Composting** – Learn to compost your food waste into grade A composts. Will learn to compost both inside and outside, without the smell of rotten food. Meet in the Nature Center auditorium for a 30 min. presentation. DG

### Saturday, March 17

**9:30am Irish Bird Watching** – Join a naturalist at the nature center for an easy 30 min. walk to find some spring birds. DG

**2pm Hunting Leprechauns** – Help a naturalist use his GPS unit to find leprechauns and their gold. Meet in front of the Nature Center for a 45 min. hunt. DG

### Sunday, March 18

**10am Looking for Spring** – With spring only three days away come and help the naturalist find evidence that spring is going to be on time. Meet at the Nature Center for a 60 min. hike. DG

**1pm Invasive Plants** – Come and learn to ID invasive plant and learn what you can do about them in a 30 min presentation in the Nature Center auditorium.

### Saturday, March 24

**10am Scat** – Learn to ID an animal without seeing them. Animals not only leave tracks but also leave scat. Meet in the Nature Center auditorium for a 30 min. presentation. DG

**1pm Frog Calls** – Join a naturalist on a 60 min. hike and discover the differences in a frogs croak. Meet at the Nature Center. DG

### Sunday, March 25

**10am Changing Dunes** – Join a naturalist on a 45 min. hike through the dunes and discover how the dunes change over time. Meet at the Beach Pavilion.

**2pm Prescribed Fires** – Come and learn why fire is an important part of an ecosystems survival. Meet at the Nature Center auditorium for a 30 min. presentation. DG

### Saturday, March 31

**10am Wildflower Hike** – Join a naturalist on a 90 min. hike through the park in search of spring wildflowers. Meet at the Nature Center. DG

**2pm Vernal Ponds** – Come discover what we have growing in our vernal ponds. Learn the difference between vernal and permanent ponds. Meet at the Nature Center. DG

### **Reserve a special hike or program for your group!**

Naturalists have been helping visitors get the most from their duneland adventures since 1931. Separate from public programming, the interpretive naturalist service of the park remains available today, revealing the secrets of the dunes to school, church, company, and scout groups year round with a variety of tailored programs and hikes. For a \$1.00 per person fee, reservations can be made from 6 months to two weeks in advance. Call the Nature Center and schedule your group's adventure today! (219) 926-1390

**Find These Programs and others at Indiana State Parks and Reservoirs On-line at**  
[www.interpretiveservices.in.gov](http://www.interpretiveservices.in.gov)

**Make a campsite or shelter reservation at**  
1-866-622-6746 or  
on-line at [www.CAMP.IN.gov](http://www.CAMP.IN.gov)